

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 02725 122254Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 SS-15 NSCE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 INRE-00
L-03 JUSE-00 FBIE-00 HA-05 /051 W
-----109059 122258Z /75
O R 122223Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8817
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, SHUM, CI
SUBJ: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION

REF: 2692

1. PRESIDENT PINOCHET TOLD NEWSMEN APRIL 12 THAT THE U.S. HAD NEVER THREATENED TO REMOVE AMBASSADOR LANDAU NOR EXERTED ANY OTHER PRESSURE ON THE GOC TO HAND MICHAEL TOWNLEY OVER TO U.S. AUTHORITIES. HE ADDED THAT THE EXPULSION WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW, AND THAT THE FACT OF THE EXPULSION IS FURTHER PROOF THAT THE GOC HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE LETELIER ASSASSINATION. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE DINA INVOLVEMENT IN THE LETELIER DEATH, PINOCHET IS QUOTED BY "LA TERCERA" AS SAYING: "THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICES SERVE THE GOVERNMENT. AN UNPLEASANT SITUATION AFFECTING THEM IS THEIR PROBLEM, NOT MINE".

2. THE GOC INFORMATION OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE REASONS FOR TOWNLEY'S EXPULSION BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE 24-HOUR WAITING PERIOD, SAYING THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD BE INFORMED WHEN THE RESULTS ARE IN. THE DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGACIONES (CIVIL POLICE -- SEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARA 1, REFTEL) IS AVOIDING ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT. HOWEVER, THE SUPREME COURT REPORTEDLY RECEIVED A WRITTEN EXPLANATION FROM INVESTIGACIONES APRIL 11 OUTLINING REASONS FOR THE EXPULSION AND WILL RULE TODAY ON A COMPLAINT PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF TOWNLEY BY NEW LAWYER FERNANDO RIVERA.

3. MEANWHILE, CONCEPCION COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE ANA ESPINOZA TOLD THE PRESS THAT SHE WAS REVIEWING THE 1973 REOBBERY-HOMICIDE CRIME IN CONCEPCION IN WHICH TOWNLEY IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED, HINTING THAT SHE MAY RECOMMEND THAT THE APPEALS COURT REOPEN THAT CASE.

4. TOWNLEY'S WIFE MARIANA CALLEJAS DEPARTED ON THE EVENING OF APRIL 11 FOR WASHINGTON (SHE RECEIVED HER U.S. VISA EARLIER IN THE DAY) AND REPORTEDLY WILL STAY APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK.
LANDAU

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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